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BY SWINDELLS & LANE.
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THE NEWS.

The mail on Friday brought us all our back exchanges from Houston, from which we bring up our dispatches. We condense them from the Houston Telegraph of the 27th and 30th, ult., and the 1st and 3d inst.

SHREVEPORT, Jan. 25th, 1865.

The report of Hood's removal is fully confirmed this morning. His army is at Tupelo with the loss of twelve thousand men, seventy pieces of cannon, and fifteen thousand small arms. It is positively asserted that Johnston has been ordered to its command.

SHREVEPORT, Jan. 25.—The Exchange agent says one hundred and sixty-eight Confederate officers captured in the Trans-Mississippi Department, have been paroled for exchange. They are at the mouth of the Red River, and will be here on the 28th. They are mostly from Texas. No later army news, either Northern or Southern.

CONSCRIPT.

From the News Extra.
SHREVEPORT, Jan. 25, 1865.
From the Mobile Tribune, 5th inst.

Richmond, Jan. 3.—An official telegram from Charleston, says the Federal raiders are reported to have returned from the M. O. R. R. going westward. They left forty wounded. Gen. Gholson is badly wounded. Damage to road repaired in ten days.

The Yankees have landed in force on the South Carolina side of the Savannah river and are driving in our pickets toward Har-denville.

Macon, Jan. 4.—The Secretary of the Treasury announces the time for redeeming the old issue extended. The Confederacy of the 4th, learns from a reliable source that 150,000 bales of cotton were left in Savannah, 120,000 belonging to foreign merchants and 30,000 to Americans, which was confiscated.

Kilpatrick went to Station 4 on Gulf railroad. Our cavalry on the Thomasville side of Alabama river strong enough to prevent advance.

Joe E. Johnston was at Columbia on the 3d. He has been re-instated, and will have his headquarters at Montgomery.

General D. H. Hill reported for duty to Gen. Beauregard, at Charleston on the 3d. A quiet along Cape Fear. Everybody in trenches. Stores shut and market depressed.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 4.—A gentleman who left Savannah last week says the city continued quiet, citizens not molested and property protected. An order issued not to cut shade trees for fuel. Fuel short, but Sherman promises to bring it by Gulf Railroad. 14th and 15th Corps in entrenchments, reaching from Savannah river to the plank road. Yankees building new pontoon bridges opposite the Exchange. Churches on Sunday filled with ladies. Many negroes, who joined Sherman in the country, are leaving—the roads lined with them. Sherman is giving levees to negroes in Savannah.

M. E.

SHREVEPORT, Jan. 26.

From the New Orleans Picayune, Jan. 18th.
New York, Jan. 12.—The World's Washington special says: The Democratic politician who has gone on a mission to Richmond, with the approval of the President, is Gen. Singleton, of Illinois. He preceded Blair a day or two.

It is said the rebel Congress adopted in secret session resolutions appointing peace commissioners, and they have been sent to Grant's headquarters. Orr of South Carolina, Gilmore, South Carolina, and A. H. Stephens are the commissioners.

It is said that Grant has telegraphed that Stephens has solicited a pass through our lines to visit Washington. It is said that Butler was not removed for incompetency, but as an evidence of our government being desirous of treating with the South on liberal terms and remove any obstruction that stands in the way.

New York, Jan. 12.—Richmond papers of Monday contain telegrams from Charleston stating Sherman had occupied Gramhamville, S. C., fifteen miles north of Savannah. A Charleston dispatch of the 6th says the enemy crossed New River on the 5th, on the road to Gramhamville. Beauregard telegraphs from Macon that Gen. Hood reports from Tupelo that General Thomas was moving up the Tennessee River with six gunboats and sixty transports towards East-port.

New York, Jan. 12.—The Steamer Collier from Port Royal, reports that a part of Sherman's army arrived at Beaufort by water. The Richmond Enquirer of 9th says, no one is safe in Virginia who favors reconstruction on the most favorable terms. The people of the State have taken Sherman at his word and mean to fight it out.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—A gentleman just from Richmond, says the Enquirer of the 6th, has the following: A card is out for a convention of the Confederate States. It is the intention of the authors of the call to revolutionize the revolution and disperse with Davis and Congress and appoint a Dictator, and perhaps surrender to the enemy.

From the St. Louis Republic, Jan. 12th.
LOUISVILLE, Jan. 11.—The Galt House was entirely destroyed by fire this morning. The loss was one million dollars. The remains of two ladies have been discovered, names not known. There are doubts regarding the origin of the fire. Jas. Gurtis has been elected U. S. Senator on the first ballot.

New York, Jan. 11th.—The Herald's army of James special says: The removal of General Butler caused great surprise to everybody in camp but himself. The order was received at half-past 11, Sunday morning, and by evening he had turned over his army to his successor and left for the north.

CAMDEN, Jan. 26.

St. Louis papers of the 16th received.—Senator Foote and wife while attempting to make their escape to the Federal lines were overtaken near Alexandria and brought back to Richmond.

The London Times of the 30th December, says, if the Washington Government persisted in its former course, it would involve itself in a war with England, and that at an early day.

SHREVEPORT, Jan. 20, 1865.

For the past ten days there has been a great drought of news, owing, no doubt, to the great rise in the Mississippi river. Con- riers from Camden and Alexandria arrive regularly, but bring nothing from either side. There is considerable movement of troops in this military district, but the extent and object is known only to the powers that be. Citizens from Alexandria and below are flocking to this place en route to the Southern Confederacy—supposed to lay somewhere between the Sabine and Mexico.

District Headquarters has been removed from Alexandria to Natchitoches. Everything portends that if the Yankees attempt another invasion of the Red River valley, they will meet with a warm reception. The Louisiana Legislature is now in session at this place. The Governor delivered his message on Tuesday, and as a State paper, it is really creditable to him. I presume the session will be a short but beneficial one.

CONSCRIPT.

SHREVEPORT, Jan. 26.

From the Memphis Daily Democrat, Jan. 16th.

The rebels refused to exchange papers yesterday, owing to news they do not relish. Admiral Lee commanding the Mississippi squadron, details to the navy department an official dispatch of the facts concerning the escape of Hood across the Tennessee river at Reidsbridge, nine miles above Florence, with remnant of demoralized army. The sudden falling of the river and the fog enabled the rebels to elude the gunboats. All pontoons below Reidsbridge were destroyed, and thousands of Hood's men scattered in the woods on the north side of the river. Admiral Lee enclosing dispatch from Gen. Thomas, dated Pulaski, Dec. 29th, stating Hood's loss in the Tennessee campaign at 14,000 men and seventy pieces of cannon. The Richmond Enquirer of the 10th favors enlarging Lee's power, giving him entire control of military affairs, but opposes the call for a convention. It says a call for a convention comes from men prejudiced to the verge of submission. The Whig favors the consolidation of the rebel armies and the removal of Seiden. The Examiner says it is not so much afraid of being conquered by the enemy as being defeated by Mr. Davis.

New York, Jan. 14.—The Tribune's Washington special gives it as his opinion that a cessation of hostilities, preliminary to peace, will take place within ten days.

The World's Washington special says it is positively known that Blair goes to Richmond on the peace commission with full authority from the President to open negotiations with Jeff. Davis and the rebel authorities. I will feel assured of this when he shows his credentials. The President does not insist on immediate abolition, but he insists that measures be taken to secure its extinction within a reasonable length of time, but under no circumstances will any propositions be acceded to, which does not embrace as the first step the laying down of arms on the part of the South. All leading papers have editorials on peace propositions. The Governors of all the loyal States congratulate the Governor of Missouri upon its return to the Union.

CONSCRIPT.

CAMDEN, Jan. 27th, 1865.

From Memphis papers of the 17th.
New York, Jan. 14th.—The World's Washington special says there are rumors in that city that the peace commissioners asked permission to cross over our lines, and that no reply reached them.

The London Times alluding to the present attitude of the North towards Canada, says, that in the present state of Northern feeling, there is too much reason to apprehend some struggle which may render a rupture inevitable. Americans neither appreciate the strength of England, nor understand the unanimity which war could be prosecuted, if forced upon a reluctant Government and nation. The first result would be the immediate and irreconcilable establishment of Southern independence. To morrow the Hand of a new peace maker referring to the draft doubtless, will fall heavily on Jeff. Davis' obstinacy.

Henry S. Foote, member of Congress from Tennessee, was arrested at Fredericksburg, on the 12th of January, while attempting to go over to the enemy. President Davis reported the matter to Congress. Foote is in custody of the War Department. The New York Tribune says that President Lincoln has declared that if Foote is harmed by rebels, he will bring five most distinguished rebel prisoners to grief.

The Herald's Washington special says Blair reached Richmond on the 13th, and Gen. Singleton, peace commissioner from Illinois would reach there on the 20th. The Nashville State Convention, (Federal) have abolished slavery; also Missouri. Edward Everett is dead.

Rosser's cavalry gained a decisive victory over the Federals at Waverly, Western Va., capturing eight hundred prisoners, two Colonels, etc.

Hamilton has declared that he will not accept any position in the new cabinet.

Another expedition has been fitted out against Wilmington. Sherman is moving towards Charleston. Mr. Miles, of South Carolina, introduced resolutions in the rebel Congress denouncing as revolutionary any attempt at peace making by separate States.

The St. Louis Democrat of the 16th, says: The report that Lee has sent troops to oppose Sherman has been confirmed. Don't know what numbers.

The Richmond papers of the 13th, announce the arrival of Blair, and state he had an interview with President Davis.

New York, Jan. 14.—The World's Washington special says, the President will issue a supplementary proclamation after the fall of Charleston, increasing the number and grade of officers excluded from amnesty, after a certain date, and informing Jeff Davis and his supporters, that if they hold out long enough to compel the raising of another army, no amnesty whatever will be given, but if they lay down their arms, they will be magnanimously treated.

H. A.

CAMDEN, Jan. 29.—The Missouri Republican of the 18th, contains Gen. Terry's official dispatch of the capture of Fort Fisher near Wilmington, dated 17th inst. He says the Fort was carried by assault on the evening of the 17th, by Ames' Division, and the Second Brigade of the First Division, 24th Army Corps, aided by a Battalion of marines and seamen. The assault was preceded by heavy bombardment from the fleet. All works South of Fort Fisher are in our hands. Twelve hundred prisoners captured, including Gen. Whiting and Col. Larret. Our loss heavy, especially in officers. Col. Canstock, Chief Engineer, gives a more detailed account. That officer represents the Confederate loss in prisoners at only 1000, and hopes the Federal loss will not exceed 300. Commanders of the leading Brigades wounded. Curtis seriously, and Bell and Pennybaker dangerously. He says the Fort was a formidable one. The perimeter in places 14 and 15 feet high. The men fought under a reverse musket fire. Marines and sailors fought gallantly, but the musketry fire from each end and front was so severe that they did not succeed in entering the works. The navy fire on the Fort was terrible.

Another dispatch represents the number of prisoners taken at 2500, and number of guns at 72. In house of this victory Grant has ordered a salute of 103 guns by each of the army operating against Richmond. It is stated that Gen. Meagher had arrived at Nashville with several thousand troops and the 15th and 17th army corps, en route to join Sherman by way of New York. The indications are, says the editor, that operations on the Atlantic coast are to be carried on on a large scale.

The Tennessee Convention that passed an act abolishing slavery, &c., does not appear to have been all one way. The Republican publishes the report of a minority against the action of the Convention. This Committee report that the call under which the Convention was assembled did not authorize any such action; that no meetings were held in many counties appointing delegates which assume to represent them; that the action of the Convention is revolutionary and even rebellious, &c.

The Richmond Dispatch of the 14th says Foote is still at Fredericksburg awaiting the disposition of the Government.

It is stated that D. H. Hill has gone to Montgomery with Beauregard to communicate with Hood.

Ex-Gov. Jacobs, of Kentucky, who went to Richmond with Blair, says the Republican reports a strong peace feeling among officers of a high grade. He predicts a cessation of hostilities within two months, and a proposal of peace from the rebel government. This does not seem to compare so well with the resolutions of the Virginia Legislature reported.

II. Assu has been elected U. S. Senator by the rump Legislature of Louisiana.

The Richmond Whig of the 17th says the unwelcome news of the fall of Fort Fisher, commanding entrance to Cape Fear river, was received this morning, causing a sensation of profound regret. The capture is equivalent to the closure of Wilmington harbor. The Fort is 18 miles below the city, but was the main defence of the city, and its fall will effectually bar the blockade runners. How far this reverse may prove injurious to our cause remains to be seen, but at present we regard it more unfortunate than disastrous.

GEN. LEE'S REPORT.—Gen. Bragg reports that the enemy bombarded Fort Fisher furiously all day on the 15th, and at 4 p. m. their infantry advanced to the assault, and a heavy demonstration for some time being made against the rear by our troops; at 6 p. m. Gen. Whiting reported that the attack had failed and the garrison was being strengthened with fresh troops. At about 10 a. m. the Fort was captured with most of the garrison. No further particulars at this time. (Signed.) R. E. LEE.

The force that attacked Fort Fisher is estimated at ten thousand men, exclusive of the navy.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The Richmond Whig of to-day states that Pierre Soule had arrived in Mexico on a mission from the Confederate Government. Street rumors say Seiden has been removed and Breckinridge made Secretary of War. Congress yesterday passed a resolution discharging Foote from custody.

The Chicago Tribune of the 15th says the town of Beverly, in Western Va., has been

captured by Gen. Wickman, of Rosser's Division. The town was garrisoned by two Ohio regiments. They were surprised and nearly all captured.

The Liverpool Post says the Shenandoah was fitted out with the design of cruising against whalers.

A late Richmond Enquirer has an article on arming slaves, in which it brings forward Gen. Lee's proposition to conscript negroes and to liberate them and the wives of those who are made soldiers. It demands that every possible sacrifice of life and property should be made to secure our national independence. It copies an article from the Wilmington Journal which proposes to adopt any course necessary for that object, and would be willing to place slavery in a course to be extinguished in a hundred years.

The Enquirer favors immediate abolition if necessary to secure peace through the recognition of France and England. H. A.

CAMDEN, Jan. 30.

From the Memphis Democrat, 2d.

New York, Jan. 18.—A Savannah letter says the Union sentiment is increasing in consequence of Sherman's mild policy and Gen. Geary's administration of the affairs of the city. No restrictions are made except on cotton. Nine counties in the interior of Georgia have issued calls for Union meetings.

New York, Jan. 19.—The Tribune's Washington special says Lincoln has been closeted all day, denying himself to all comers. It is whispered that two Alabama peace delegations had audience, and the President was giving his mind to the endeavor from both sides of the line of war to bring about a settlement.

Fortress Monroe correspondent says the Raleigh Whig comes out openly for reconstruction.

The Richmond Dispatch of the 17th says, the fall of Fort Fisher, we presume closes the port of Wilmington. Fort Caswell and other forts still guard the southern channel of the river. Fort Fisher is 30 miles below Wilmington. Some regard the fall of Fort Fisher a disaster, while many are disposed to regard it as a blessing in disguise. The latter, who are it is said a numerous class, contend that as a port Wilmington has from the first done more harm than good. The goods imported have done us little good, and millions of dollars worth of cotton have thence found its way to the enemy. It is supposed that possibly our forces which, according to Gen. Lee's report, were making heavy demonstrations in the rear, may retake the fort. It was reported yesterday that J. C. Breckinridge had been made Secretary of War of the Confederate States, and there are reasons for believing it.

Judge Haliburton, of the Confederate Court for the District of Virginia, issued a writ of habeas corpus on petition of Foote, commanding Capt. Doggett, provost marshal of Fredericksburg, to bring the body of Foote before the Judge, and show cause why he should not be set at liberty. This matter has been killed by the House of Representatives, to whom it was referred by the President, declaring that no good to the country would be observed by the forced attendance of Mr. Foote in their session, but under all the circumstances of the case it is expedient that the authorities discharge him from custody.

J. W. Singleton, of Illinois, Yankee peace Democrat and peace commissioner, is still at the Spout-wood Hotel. His presence has not produced any great sensation at Richmond.

The Examiner of the 16th says the rumors concerning the nature of the paper peace negotiations all Blair carries back with him are very numerous. We are confidently assured that the mission has brought the peace question to a point that provides for the appointment of commissioners from either side with authority of laying peace foundations.

The Whigs say it is understood that Blair's private confidential interview with Mr. Davis came in no official capacity, and had no official intercourse with any member of the Government. The belief is that this interview will lead to a conference between authorized agents or commissioners of the two governments. It is understood that Mr. Davis will permit no obstacle of the former to stand in the way of sending or receiving commissioners. Blair was handsomely entertained during his sojourn in Richmond. We are assured that the report is true that Mr. Davis has sent an autograph letter to Mr. Blair, expressing his willingness to send or receive authorized Commissioners to negotiate peace. Mr. Blair came in no official capacity, but simply with the knowledge and consent of Mr. Lincoln. He expressed the opinion that Mr. Lincoln would certainly appoint commissioners to meet those appointed by our President. The boat that took Mr. Blair from Richmond on its return trip carried to that place Mr. Singleton, peace commissioner, from whose visit the Richmond papers are hoping much in the way of pacification.

From the St. Louis Republic, 24th.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The Star says Blair left for City Point to-day with the purpose of paying another visit to Richmond. He left on the U. S. steamer Don, on which vessel he made his last trip. He went on board at 11 o'clock, and the steamer immediately left. He was accompanied by his servants only.

The Herald's Washington special says since Blair's return from his first visit to Richmond he has been frequently in consultation with Lincoln and the leading members of the administration. He returns once more to the rebel Capital. This would

aid date that the first mission was far more successful than was allowed to transpire.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 20.—It is rumored that Fort Caswell has been blown up.

New York, Jan. 20.—Globe opened at 20th; advanced to 20th; declined to 20th; selling outside at 20th. The Monitor Petropson was destroyed by rebel torpedoes at Charleston on the 17th. 40 to 50 of the crew went down with her.

From the Marshall Republican.

The Treasury Agency.

From the Report of the Agent of the Treasury, recently made to the Department at Richmond, the following facts appear. They show, with reasonable accuracy, the operations of the Agency and the condition of its finances to the 15th December, though full returns from all Treasury officers had not been received.

The statement of amount of new issue Treasury notes received, does not correspond with those recently made by some of the public prints based on reports of mail carriers and other unauthenticated sources.

The total amount of new issue Treasury notes received has been \$101,000,000.00. There has been received or collected in old Treasury notes, certificates for bonds, &c., including deposits for exchange issues, \$101,875,115.84. This amount was received from the following sources, to-wit:

Deposits in funding in 4 per cent. Bonds under act of Feb. 17th, 1864.	\$46,408,100.00
Deposits of Bonds by States.	415,000.00
Repayment by Insuring Officers.	32,174,900.00
Sequestration Fund.	1,900,000.00
Taxes collected since the 1st of July.	5,708,450.42
Tax on currency.	643,175.00
Military Exemption Fund.	18,000.00
Other sources.	6,650,000.00
Deposits for exchange of issues.	6,958,494.00

\$101,875,115.84

The expenditures since 1st July, which have been made in New Issue notes, are, to-wit:

On War Department Requisitions.	\$11,000,000.00
" Navy "	150,000.00
" Civil List, including Treasury, Customs, Courts, P. O. Dept., Intervention Public Debt, &c.	1,300,758.07

\$12,450,758.07

Leaving balance then in hands of Pay Department, subject to ordinary regulations of the Treasury Government expenditures, about two and a half millions.

The whole amount received for Bonds, Taxes, &c., as above stated, of nearly one hundred and two millions, approximately the amount of the old currency retired under the tax and currency acts of February, 1864. This amount has been or will be cancelled by the depositaries, and the funding side of the war will be accounted for all receipts. It will be seen that the coming in, arranging and cancelling this amount of paper money is a very heavy and troublesome work.

There has also been received eighteen millions of 5 and 8 per cent. bonds, which have been distributed to the depositaries and produce for agents to collect certificates given under the funding side of the war, for purchase of cotton by the Government.

Since the 1st of October, there has been received from Richmond the sum of eleven millions of dollars in certificates of indebtedness, non-taxable and bearing six per cent. interest, payable semi-annually, the principle payable two years after the war. These have been issued as far as practicable to meet requirements of the Government for the purchase of military supplies. They are valuable securities, such as our planters, stock-raisers, railroad men and others would find it to their interest to hold, and thus aid the Government in its efforts to keep the currency in circulation. Thus far the discharging officers have not been able to the extent anticipated, other from want of proper efforts on their part, or from want of understanding the advantages of them on the part of creditors.

A supply of six per cent. non-taxable coupon Bonds of the 500 million loan has also been received, amounting to six millions, some of which have been offered for sale as a means of raising money to meet requirements for the purchase of a sufficient supply of the new notes to meet the demands for exchange.

The agent complains and presents forcibly to the Secretary the embarrassments caused by the neglect or inability of the Government to send an ample supply of the new notes. The pressing demand of the public service has compelled him to meet requirements for expenditures, to the exclusion of the just claims of the people to have their taxed notes exchanged, a course different from what he desired and intended.

The following is the new exemption bill as reported by the House committee on military affairs:

In the House the exemption bill was reported from the military committee. It repeals all former laws on this subject, and proposes to exempt all persons unfit for military service, the Vice President, members and officers of Congress, State Legislatures, and such other Confederate State officers as the President or the laws of the respective State may declare to be necessary; ministers of religion not engaged in buying or selling for a profit; employees of asylums; one editor to each newspaper, and such practical printers and pressmen as are indispensable to its publication, one skilled apothecary in each store; all practising physicians heretofore exempt, not engaged in buying or selling, there fees to be fixed by the board of commissioners in each State; all teachers heretofore exempt; railroad exemptions are renewed with some modifications; exemptions on religious grounds are continued, on condition that the exempt pay an annual tax of five hundred dollars and sell surplus produce at schedule price. The last section authorizes the President to grant other exemptions or details on account of public necessity, justice or equity.

A letter from London, dated 12th ult., in the New York Herald, says: "The hard times are easier. Rebel bonds are going up, and greenbacks down. Interest has fallen, and the severe pressure seems to be over. But few failures lately."

We are informed officially (by the "Index") that Lieut. Waddell of the Confederate States Navy, has hoisted his flag on a new steamer, the Shenandoah. She received her crew, armament, &c., on the high seas, far from any neutral jurisdiction, and is said to be a better vessel than the Florida.

The New York Herald of the 30th ult., says, since the capture of Pryor, Captain Burbridge has been dismissed from the army for disobeying the orders forbidding the exchange of papers or holding intercourse with the "enemy" under any pretext whatever, and that Pryor will probably be returned soon.

It was Brig. General John Adams, now Gen. Wirt Adams, that was wounded at the battle of Franklin. Gen. Wirt Adams is still doing good service in Mississippi.